GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2124
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Distribution of Poor Quality Foodgrains
Kumar Shri P.;Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether several complaints of putrefied and poor quality foodgrains being distributed to the people living below poverty line under various foodgrains based welfare schemes are being constantly received, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
(b) whether the foodgrains distributed under the Public Distribution System (PDS) are tested by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), if so, the details and the outcome thereof indicating the number of samples taken and the reports furnished during the same period, State-wise; and
(c) whether the Government is aware of the increasing consumption of junk foods by children and its resultant health hazards in the country and if so, the corrective action taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)
(a): State-wise details of the complaints about supply of poor quality foodgrains under Public Distribution System (PDS) and Other Welfare Schemes and action taken by the Government during last three years and current year are at Annex-I.
(b): Regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of all the food items are being done by the State Food Safety Officers and sent to the laboratories recognized by Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for analysis. In cases where samples are found to be not conforming to the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the Rules and Regulations made there under, recourse is taken to the penal provisions under Chapter IX of the Act.
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No separate data is available with regard to PDS. However, as per the information received from States/UTs, the consolidated details of food samples collected, tested, found not conforming and action taken during the year 2015-16 is as follows:
(i) No. of samples analysed − 65,833
(ii) No. of samples found to be non-conforming − 14,283
(iii) No. of Prosecution Launched − 9,852
(iv) Conviction − 516
The State-wise details are at Annex-II.
(c): 'Junk Food' is not defined in the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Regulations made there under. However, draft guidelines titled 'Guidelines for making available Wholesome, Nutritious, Safe and Hygienic Food to School Children in India' prepared by the Expert Group/Central Advisory Committee as per the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in matter of Writ Petition (C) No.8568 of 2010 titled "Uday Foundation for Congenital Defects and Rare Blood Vs UOI & Others" , has been issued by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India on 12.10.2015 wherein the availability of most common HFSS (High in Fat, Salt and Sugar) Foods in schools and an area within 50 meters thereof has been restricted/limited. The above guidelines have been shared with the Ministry of Human Resource Development for implementation.
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ANNEX-I
ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2124
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2016 IN LOK SABHA.
STATE-WISE DETAILS OF THE COMPLAINTS ABOUT SUPPLY OF POOR QUALITY FOODGRAINS UNDER PDS AND OTHER WELFARE SCHEMES AND ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT DURING LAST THREE YEARS AND CURRENT YEAR
Year
State
Complaint
Action Taken by the Government
2016-17
Maharashtra
Kerala
Uttar Pradesh
Sikkim
Madhya Pradesh
Complaint received in FCI from S.K. Shrivastava, India RTI News dated 30.08.2016 regarding supply of poor quality of Rice and Wheat to BPL quota under Dombivali Region (Thane), Maharashtra.
News report published in "MINT Delhi"" on 23.09.2016 titled wheat meant for PDS infested with worms - 8 tonnes of Wheat supplied to tribal children in Attapady, Palakkad was found to be infested with worms on 22.9.2016.
Complaint dated 12.08.2016 & 15.09.2016 received in FCI from Sh. Atul Gupta, S/O Sh. Rammurti Gupta, Dist. Bahraich (UP) regarding storage of damaged rice stock in the godowns of District Bahraich (UP) regarding damage of lakhs of tonnes rice at

District Bahraich, FCI due to negligence of officers & dispatch of poor quality rice under PDS and no action initiated on complaints.
Joint Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim, Food & Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department, informed to FCI regarding Poor Quality of Rice supplied from FCI Jorethang.
A complaint made by Shri Kishore Samrite, Dist. Balaghat, (MP) regarding issue of poor quality rice under TPDS at Balaghat, Siwan, Katni, Jabalpur & Mandla District of MP.
FCI got investigated the complaint and was not found to be true.
The complaint was investigated by GM, FCI, Kerala Region. The stocks in question was issue after conducting joint inspection with the representative of WBNP Scheme, who have confirmed that the stocks were pest free. Complaint found baseless.
The complaint was got investigated by FCI, Regional Office, UP. Centre under complaint was investigated jointly by officers of FCI and State Govt. and stock was found within specifications.
FCI has informed that on examination of investigation report, FCI Regional Office has already informed to Secretary, Government of Sikkim on 02.05.2016 that only pest free FAQ stock have been issued from FSD, Jorethang with full satisfaction of Inspector−in-Charge, Government of Sikkim in term of quality and quantity. The issue was also discussed by General Manager, West Bengal, FCI over phone with Secretary (Food), Government of Sikkim who expressed his full satisfaction.
The complaint was forwarded to CMD, FCI and Principle Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Protection, Government of MP to get the complaint investigated. MP being a DCP State, complaint regarding distribution of substandard/inferior quality stocks primarily related to State Govt.
...2/-
...2...
2015-16
NCT, Delhi
Maharashtra
Jammu & Kashmir
Kerala
A complaint was received from Indraprastha Welfare Association, New Delhi regarding Supply of poor quality of foodgrain in Moti Nagar, Area of Delhi
A complaint received from Secretary, Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, Govt. of Maharashtra - regarding supply of luster loss wheat from FCI base depot, Jalgoan and MSWC, Nanded.
A complaint was received from Director of Consumer affair & P.D. Deptt, Kashmir-regarding Supply of below standard quality wheat under Wheat Relaxation Scheme.
A complaint was received from Kerala Ration Wholesale Distributor Federation, Kottayam in FCI regarding five bags of damaged rice from FSD Valianthura to PDS.
The complaint was got investigated by deputing an officer of the Ministry. The complaint was not found to be true.
Instructions were issued to all State Governments to accept the luster loss wheat procured during RMS 2015-16 under the relaxed specifications as luster lost wheat is as nutritious as sound wheat only shining is less and the quality of wheat is intact and good.
-do-
The complaint was got investigated by Area Manager Thiruvanathapuram and found that stock were lifted by State Government nominee after proper acknowledgement about their satisfaction on quality.
2014-15
Tamil Nadu
NCT Delhi
Odisha
Kerala
Madhya Pradesh
A complaint was received from Shri B Lokanathan, resident of Coimbatore regarding supply of foodgrains beyond Food Safety Standard under PDS in Tamil Nadu in July 2014.
A complaint was received from Delhi Jan Kalyan Vikas Manch, Mangolpuri regarding supply of substandard foodgrains from FSD Ghevra with the connivance of depot incharge FSD Ghevra and incharge of Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation in July 2014
A complaint has been received from Shri Ganesh Lal Aggarwal, Sr. Citizen, Sambalpur, Odisha regarding supply of poor quality of rice under PDS in October 2014.
A complaint has been received in FCI from Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd, North Paravur Depot regarding supply of 17 bags of rice from FSD Angamally for Mid Day Meal Scheme in October 2014
CBI Jabalpur Branch has forwarded a complaint to FCI made by Sh. Santosh Shrivastava, resident of Narsinghpure (MP) regarding supply of poor quality foodgrains in PDS
The complaint was forwarded to CMD, FCI to investigate the complaint. FCI has informed that action taken against through the delinquents.
The complaint was forwarded to CMD, FCI and Secretary, Food & Civil Supplies, Government of NCT Delhi to get the complaint investigated and to ensure supply good quality foodgrains to be issued under PDS.
The complaint was investigated by an officer of this Department and not found to be true.
General Manager (Region), FCI, Kerala had informed that the complaint was not found to be true.
The complaint was forwarded to Secretary (Food) Govt. of Madhya Pradesh by FCI to get the matter investigated and submit the same to CBI directly since the allegation relates to PDS in the State.
...3/-
...3...
2013-14
Uttar Pradesh
Kerala
Maharashtra
A complaint was received from Shri Atul Gupta, Resident of Baharaich regarding issue of sub-standard rice stocks received from Shajahanpur under PDS.
A complaint was received from J N Rai resident of Sirsiyan, District Gorakhpur regarding distribution of poor quality of foodgrains

under PDS in Gorakhpur

A complaint was received from Shri Suresh Kumar, resident of Calicut regarding supply of inferior quality of foodgrains under PDS in Kerala.

A compliant was received in FCI from Directorate of Social Justice, Thiruvanantpuram dated 21.11.2013 regarding supply of contaminated wheat by FCI Kollam, Kerala

A complaint was received from Shri Anil Mishra, Member of Legislative Council, Maharashtra regarding supply of inferior quality of foodgrains under PDS in Maharashtra.

CMD, FCI has been requested to investigate the matter and ensure supply of good quality foodgrains to State Governments. Principal Secretary (Food & Civil Supplies Department), Government of Uttar Pradesh has also been requested to ensure that good quality foodgrains are issued under PDS to consumers.

The complaint was forwarded to Principal Secretary, Food & Civil Supplies Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh to investigate the complaint and to ensure that good quality foodgrains are issued under PDS to consumers.

The complaint was got investigated by deputing an officer of this Ministry and the officers from FCI. Based on the report CMD, FCI was requested to take remedial measures for upgradation of the stocks before issue under PDS as also action against delinquents and ensure that only good quality foodgrains are issued under PDS. Principal Secretary (Food & Civil Supplies), Government of Kerala has also been requested to ensure that good quality foodgrains are issued under PDS to consumers.

FCI informed that on investigation the complaint was not found to be true and the position was apprised to the Directorate of Social Justice, Thiruvanantpuram.

The complaint has been forwarded to CMD, FCI and Principal Secretary (Food & Civil Supplies), Government of Maharashtra for investigation and necessary action. They have also been requested to ensure the supply and distribution of good quality foodgrains issued under PDS.

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ANNEX-II

ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2124 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2016 IN LOK SABHA.

Annual Public Laboratory Testing Report for the year 2015-2016

Sr. No
Name of the State/ U.T.
Total No. of samples received
No. of Samples Analysed
No. of Samples found adulterated and Misbranded
No. of Cases Launched
No. of Convictions/ Penalties
Criminal
Civil
Convictions
Penalties/
Amount raised in Rupees

1.
A & N Islands
156
156
25
0
0
0
Rs. 2,71,000

2.
Andhra Pradesh
4860
4860
870
194
347
4
83/ Rs. 52,15,000

3.
Arunachal Pradesh
290
290
30
0
28
0
5/ Rs. 15,000

4.
Assam
503
503
72
10

80
2
4
5.
Bihar
2032
1447
35
0
93
0
4/ RS. 20,000
6.
Chandigarh
206
206
15
15
0
Rs. 10,52,000
7.
Chhattisgarh
1026
1026
298
3
17
0
Rs. 85,000
8.
Dadra & N.H
65
65
5
0
2
0
0
9.
Daman & Diu
106
106
11
0
11
0
0
10.
Delhi
1472
1472
239
149
0
0
Rs. 44,82,500
11.
Goa
1132
1155
72
0
4
1
1/ Rs. 5,000
12.
Gujarat
15115
14891
1242
30

507
1
182/ Rs. 1,90,05,906
13.
Haryana
2121
2063
180
7
149
0
111/ Rs. 27,43,600
14.
Himachal Pradesh
415
390
53
22
12
25
Rs. 9,50,000
15.
Jammu & Kashmir*
1354
1215
334
1
335
215
Rs. 22,14,400
16.
Jharkhand
17.
Karnataka
2894
2340
433
58
0
Rs. 4,36,000
18.
Kerala
2364
2196
459
138
246
17
44 / Rs. 66,33,500
19.
Lakshadweep
0
20.
Madhya Pradesh
10035
9994
1311
82
879
36
447/ Rs. 4,48,26,000
21.
Maharashtra
2019
1400
345
396
85
Rs. 12,25,500
22.
Manipur

67
67
0
0
8
8
8/ Rs. 1,64,000
23.
Meghalaya
124
87
4
0
0
0
0
24.
Mizoram
24
17
4
0
0
0
0
25.
Nagaland
187
187
76
32
20
20/ Rs. 10,000
26.
Odisha
211
211
61
2
1
27.
Puducherry
827
827
11
0
1
0
1/ Rs. 5,000
28.
Punjab
29.
Rajasthan
30.
Sikkim
5
5
0
0
0
0
0
31.
Tamil Nadu
1742
1783
607
107
308
23
202/ Rs. 58,90,800

32.
Telangana
33.
Tripura
814
814
17
5
0
Rs. 2,750
34.
Uttar Pradesh
17726
14833
7189
506
4864
164
2370/ Rs. 11,51,20,480
35.
Uttra khand
1073
1073
183
10
95
0
Rs. 15,35,000
36.
West Bengal
154
154
102
1
13
0
0
Total:
71,119
65,833
14,283
1,656
8196
516
3,483/ Rs. 21,19,08,436
* In the absence of Annual Report of the States, Half Yearly reports are furnished for the same.
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